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# The Times

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## Council, resident clash over septic inspection bills from 2021

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Paul Pilon has been living a financial nightmare since 2021.

He told Minden Hills council during its regular meeting Nov. 9 that it's all because of the septic system inspection program. And he'd like to have a few questions answered.

He asked what timeframe is allowable to pay an invoice for an inspection after it's received.

"I have four different places where I have been charged and I have to pay money," he said. "Some of this, I'm going to have to pay



### Minden remembers

Following the Remembrance Day ceremony in Minden on Nov. 11, people were invited to place a poppy on the cenotaph in memory of someone involved in war and conflict. For more Remembrance Day photos, see inside this issue. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times

interest if I don't pay in time, and this thing is all twisted. That's why I'm here."

Hopefully, he said, township council can help straighten thing out before a "legal twist" is added to his nightmare.

"This isn't a question-and-answer period," Mayor Bob Carter said. "This is a chance for you to make a delegation to council explain-

ing your problem and we can then turn it over to staff to hopefully straighten out your problem."

"I don't know how we're going to resolve this, but anyway," Pilon said.

He said he was sent a bill for \$220 in 2021 for an inspection at a property numbered 0051938 on the tax roll. That corresponds to

an address at the back of his farm.

"Can we deal with this one at a time before we go through a whole mixture of this stuff?" Pilon said.

"As I explained to you, this is an opportunity for you to tell us what your problem is

see MIXED page 2

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# Mixed messages from Minden staff

from page 1

or what your situation is,” Carter said. “Have you dealt with staff on this issue?”

“No, but I’ve dealt with you on the phone,” Pilon said. He said he went to the township in 2021 and paid for the inspection at his property. He showed him the bill for the other inspection and asked town staff where the property was located for which he’s being charged. “Oh, it’s not one of yours,” Pilon said the municipal staffer told him. “You sold that 11 years ago.” He said there was another bill for another property that he paid the same time he visited township hall in 2021. It was for a workshop that he built in 1986-87. “It’s a workshop and I eventually started to make maple syrup,” he said. “I have an evaporator there and I have a 400-gallon stainless steel milk tank which the sap came into before going to the evaporator. “The person who did the inspection didn’t have any idea what they were looking at.” He said a young lady who completed the inspection said she was a university student doing a summer job at WSP, which was the environmental consultant hired in 2021 to inspect septic systems throughout the township. Pilon said he’s been a licensed plumber since he was 23 years old. “And I know a lot about this than a lot more of these in-

spectors know about,” Pilon said. “I told her this and I said I’m not satisfied with the response that I’m getting. What she said to me: All our inspectors are highly qualified. “A university student that comes and (inspects) a septic system is highly qualified, instead of an inspector from the Health Department.” But wait. There’s another property. It’s 62-acres. And there’s another bill. “No septic inspection has ever been done there,” Pilon said. “There’s no septic system or anything (on the property). It’s all bush. And I’m getting this bill.” The 62-acres with the workshop and sugar shack is a parcel of land that was once two properties, one with another owner. Pilon bought the other property and the combined parcel was given a new number for taxation purposes. “And I have an invoice with all kinds of stuff that’s wrong,” he said. “Sir, obviously all these details are not something that we here at council will be able to decipher or deal with here today,” Carter said. “Have you spoken to staff about this?” “To who?” Pilon said. “To our Treasury Department and so on,” Carter said. “I have spoken—” “—Sir, when you spoke to me, I turned it over to staff,” Carter said. “You have spoken to many people on our staff. They are working to try to resolve all of this with you. I rec-

ognize that there are some problems here ... because of multiple parcels of land and perhaps some errors that were made by WSP. Believe me, staff is working diligently to try to resolve these problems for you.” “Well nobody has ever contacted me to tell me that something was being done,” Pilon said. “Sir, that is completely false,” Carter said. “You have been in the office numerous times. Both the treasurer, the deputy treasurer, the clerk, many people have been dealing with you and have been telling you that they have been working on it.” The mayor said there are some bills that are legitimately owed to the township and some are problems that need to be worked out. Councillor Pam Sayne said she and Pilon have talked previously about the invoices and she had brought the issue to municipal staff. “This isn’t an excuse, but it is a reason,” Sayne said. “When the municipalities took on the septic inspections, we were basically given a bunch of shoe boxes of receipts, trying to sort it out.” She said there were properties located by their former lot and concession numbers. “It was very difficult to match what was on a particular property,” Sayne said. “Obviously, some of these things are still being worked out.”

## County awards records management contract

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Benefits abound with sound management of records and documents. Mike March, Haliburton County’s information technology director, laid out some of those benefits during the upper tier council’s regular meeting Nov. 8. The road toward improving records management hasn’t been a short jaunt. In 2019, the county was granted \$725,000 through the Municipal Modernization Fund (MMF) to be spent on projects that improved staff and organizational efficiency. In October 2021, the previous county council approved allocating \$100,000 of the MMF to fund an electronic document and records management solution (EDRMS). The suggestion to implement an EDRMS was rooted in the Haliburton joint service delivery review (SDR). Strategy Corp identified in the SDR report that a records management project could be worked on collaboratively by the county and four municipalities. The county and four municipal CAO’s agreed to collabo-

rate on an EDRMS implementation project as all five organizations have identified records management as an area that requires improvement. Like past projects of similar scope, the county would pay 50 per cent towards a new EDRMS system, and the remaining 50 per cent would be split between the four municipalities. The contract for the new system was awarded to StoneShare, a company that has implemented record management systems in 41 other Ontario municipalities. The EDRMS will cost \$69,095. The county will pay \$34,547 of the previously budgeted \$100,000 for the project. As the contract came in under budget, March suggested council keep the remaining \$65,452 be kept in the IT budget and carried over to next year and possibly 2025. The remainder will cover software licenses, staff training, and StoneShare support. Strategy Corp estimated that the county and four municipalities could realize as much as \$80,000 annually by reducing the reliance on paper records. Better management and storage of records will assist in maintaining current and future municipal knowledge, history, as well as protect corporate records having long-term or permanent value. The EDRMS will reduce exposure to legal action resulting from misfiled or misplaced, premature destruction or excessive retention of records. The new system will curb record duplication and ensure proper record disposal as per the county’s Records Retention Bylaw. The EDRMS will reduce the growing IT storage requirements and associated costs of storing many years’ worth of redundant files. Using the Ontario Municipal Records Management System classification system, the EDRMS will provide a standard method of file management that will remain consistent through the change in staff or management. The protection of private and confidential information will be ensured and clearly demonstrated to judicial and legislative authorities that every reasonable effort is being made to both retain and dispose of records in accordance with legislative requirements. March said the records management system will reduce the time it takes staff to locate files. That will speed up completion of any freedom of information requests. “As well as reducing risks of misfiled records, premature destruction of records, as well as excessive retention of records,” he said. “Are we looking to take any of our old paper records and digitize them and put them through into this system?” said Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills. “The main scope of the project is to deal with our electronic files,” March said. Migrating the paper files may take place in the future.



### Cheers!

The Minden Hospital Auxiliary held its Wine On Wheels draw on Tuesday, Oct. 24th. Suzanne Cassar was the happy winner of 48 bottles of wine and a wheelbarrow donated by Minden Canadian Tire. Suzanne and her husband, Trevor, picked up their prize on Saturday, October 28th. Pictured are Suzanne and Trevor with MHCA president Gail Simon. /photo submitted



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# County chips in on CT equipment, but there's a rub for HHHS

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County council should have a voice in local health care decisions.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said the upper tier council should have two seats on the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) board of directors.

And Carter said during council's regular meeting Nov. 8 that a recent HHHS request for money should be part of the 2024 budgeting process.

HHHS asked county council in October to kick in \$1-million toward the purchase of a CT scan, CT mammography equipment and the necessary hospital renovations to accommodate the equipment.

The total cost of the diagnostic equipment is \$4.3-million.

Council was asked that the money be forwarded as soon as possible if the request was granted. Costs for design, installation, and the associated construction have already begun.

Council agreed to provide the requested money in two installments. Carter was the only councillor to vote against writing a cheque outside the 2024 budget process.

It is expected that the new diagnostic tools will be installed and operational by next summer.

Michael Rutter, the county's CAO, said there are limited reserves available to fund unplanned projects. But, given the importance to the community, staff recommend the contribution be paid to HHHS in two installments of \$500,000.

The first installment to be paid in January 2024 and the second in January 2025.

Rutter suggested \$200,000 be included in the annual budgets over the next five years. And staff recommend that \$300,000 be transferred from reserves in 2024 and 2025 to fund the two installments.

The funds would be repaid to reserves at \$200,000 beginning in 2026 with the final installment being made in 2028.

Rutter provided details about how local CT services would yield monetary savings and create health care efficiencies in the county.

Providing CT services locally would not eliminate inter-facility transfers, but it would reduce the number significantly. It's estimated that 60 per cent of the total number of transfers would be eliminated.

County ambulances spend as much as 2,000 hours per year transporting patients for diagnostic services in other communities.

"This is time that our ambulances are not available in the county to answer emergency calls," Rutter said.

Ambulance call volumes continue to increase because of a growing reliance on CT services, an increasing and aging population, and increased tourism activity.

Transfers for CT rose from 218 calls in 2019 to 357 in 2021.

On average, each CT transfer takes as long as six hours. As a result, staff are experiencing more and more challenges maintaining an appropriate emergency response capability.

The county's EMS Master Plan recognized these challenges, with the three top priorities to be addressed immediately, and six of 13 goals to be addressed in the next three years relating directly to inter-facility transfers.

"Our staff are dedicated and they are committed, so they will do what we ask them to do," Rutter said. "But it has been a topic of conversation at every labour management meeting that we've had in the last number of years."

"These transfers take a toll."

The county's Physician and Health Care Recruitment Co-ordinator has reported to council that physicians considering working in Haliburton's emergency department are unwilling to commit when they find out there's no CT equipment.

"I just wanted to make clear that the lack of a CT scan has an impact on our EMS department, on our health care, and physician recruitment," Rutter said. "That doesn't even touch on the economic benefits of keeping our money circulating locally."

Coun. Lisa Schell, the deputy mayor in

Minden Hills, said the lack of public consultation is concerning, especially given that it's public money being requested.

"While there's no doubt having a CT scanner in the county could be beneficial, I still struggle to believe that we will find the staff to operate it," she said.

HHHS closed one of two emergency departments in the county in June.

"I want to remind the community and everyone in this room that we had a fully-staffed Emergency Department that HHHS closed, throwing away emergency doctors who had been faithfully staffing the Emergency Department for decades," Schell said.

"And now they're asking for \$1-million for a CT scanner to attract emergency doctors."

She said she'd like to vote for something that will benefit county residents, but she's struggling with the fact that county council has no say on how health care services are delivered. There's no council presence on the board of directors.

Coun. Murray Fearrey, Dysart's mayor, said council should be able to find \$200,000 in a multi-million-dollar budget. And he weighed that against the dreadful possibility that a patient facing a serious health issue must wait a couple hours because of travel, rather than minutes if the diagnostic tests were done locally.

"I'm not going to debate the overall public opinion of it," said Coun. Cecil Ryall, Highlands East's deputy mayor. "I'm looking at purely the dollars of it and I would find it very difficult not to support this."

"I'm a bit surprised and stymied as to why we're not considering this motion when we do the budget as opposed to just ad hoc thing where somebody comes and asks for money and we decide that we're going to give it to them in a special manner," said Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills.

Carter said HHHS had been working on getting the equipment for quite some time and they knew as far back as June that the Ministry of Health was going to grant approval. HHHS had a lot of time to request financial help from the county.

"I suspect that they didn't want to show their faces around this council in around June, just after they closed the (Minden) emergency room," he said. "So it's been delayed until now."

"But bad planning on your part does not constitute an emergency on my part. I think this should be done as part of our budgeting process."

HHHS has not been very transparent with county council, he said. Council should demand two seats on the HHHS board of directors to get county support.

"I know they (HHHS) haven't been transparent," Fearrey said. "But ... we can't keep going back and finding fault. We've got to move forward here."

"I look to others as to whether you'd like to pass it today or wait until budget," said Coun. Jennifer Dailloux, the deputy mayor of Algonquin Highlands. "But, in general, I'm in support of this initiative."

"A million dollars is a lot of money," said Coun. Walt McKechnie, Dysart's deputy mayor. "But the way it's laid out, it's not going to be a big hit on anybody right away."

Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands, said there much work to be done to re-establish trust and communication between the county and HHHS.

"There has been some effort made, but nowhere near enough," she said, and added that representation on the board should be a condition of the funding.

"I have been given understanding from at least three members of the board that that is in the works."

Carter said the budgeting process will begin in a couple week, so it isn't unreasonable that the funding request wait until then.

"Doing this outside of the process is not acceptable to me," he said.

"I do take a bit of offence at any suggestion that the rest of us do not take due consideration for our taxpayers," Danielsen said. "I think the fact that we're wanting to move forward with this is, in fact, in support of our taxpayers."

"I didn't imply that," Carter said.

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## VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

November 30- Regular Council Meeting  
December 14- Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx). Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

## WASTE DISPOSAL

The Township has recently implemented a new waste diversion program. If you have lumber material that you no longer need, drop it off at the Scotch Line Landfill in our lumber reuse area. No disposal fees apply. The lumber is available to residents for reuse.

### Reusable lumber criteria:

- Nails, screws, and hardware must be removed
- No hazardous materials
- Wood is in good reusable condition
- No small cutoffs

## MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE FOUNDATION

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Wednesday, December 13 at 4 pm. All members of the MHCCF are welcome to attend. Please email [mindenhillscffoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mindenhillscffoundation@gmail.com) for more information.

## CULTURAL CENTRE

*Shifting Lens*, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation.

For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library welcome you to join us for movies on PA Days! On every PA Day starting at 1:00 PM, there will be a free, family-friendly movie screening that takes place in the Welch Room of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Our next movie is scheduled for Friday, November 17. No registration is required. Snacks will be provided. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

Christmas in the Village takes place on Saturday, November 18 from 11 am – 3 pm. Visit Santa from 12-2 pm and sip hot chocolate as you tour the heritage village. Don't miss the Old-Fashioned candy shop, fresh baked goods for sale in the Bowron House, live music, hands-on activities and games for children and our outdoors Artisan's Market. We are also accepting vendors for our Artisan Market. The registration fee is \$10 for a 10'x10' area. Please contact [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca) or call 705-286-3763 x 542 to reserve your spot.

## WINTER PARKING

From Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to Apr 30<sup>th</sup>, overnight parking is prohibited between the hours of midnight and 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Furthermore, parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

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  - Have fireplaces and fireplace dampers checked.
- Fireplaces should be equipped with an appropriate screen or glass enclosure to prevent sparks from flying out.
- Wood burning stoves should be examined and the flue and chimney checked for creosote buildup. Creosote is a deposit from smoke that can build up in a chimney and can start a fire.
- Use only seasoned woods, and avoid soft woods like Pine, etc.
  - Never use a flammable liquid to start a fireplace.
  - Never overload the hearth with wood or artificial logs, the resulting fire may be too large for the unit.
  - Put all ashes outdoors and away from the house in a metal container.



# Boshkung and Truss join forces

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

The landscape of Haliburton County restaurants is changing.

Mathew Renda of Boshkung Brewing Co. and Mike Rae of Truss Foodworks Inc. have joined forces to become the new co-owners of the businesses, bolstering a new era of hospitality for the communities in the region.

“There are not many companies that spread across the county the same way we do,” said Renda, as he and Rae sat down by the fire at the Boshkung Social location in Minden. “And we want to represent Haliburton County well.”

The two friends met in early 2020, when Renda was working for Fenelon Falls Brewing Co., and Rae was the chef at a camp. “I wanted to find a way to cook with beer,” laughed Rae, saying that he was eager to start experimenting with different ways to present smoked foods. “I reached out to a few nearby breweries, and Renda got back to me right away.”

What started as a business partnership quickly evolved into a friendship, with the colleagues spending every Sunday together sampling beers, and swapping stories.

By 2021, Renda was in the process of moving onto a new chapter, and announced he was leaving Fenelon for a management role at Boshkung. Upon the announcement, he immediately reached out to Rae, to see if he would be interested in offering food at the new location on a weekly basis.

“I came up to Minden one time,” said Rae, “and that was all it took. I was sold.”

The business partners continued to work hand-in-hand to establish new, different, and unique food and drink offerings for the county, while simultaneously working independently to grow their brand. Rae formalized a partnership with Haliburton Forest, which he opened as Truss Foodworks at their Kennisis Lake location, and continues to operate as a full restaurant.

As Rae put efforts into developing the brand of Truss, Renda was working behind the scenes to establish Boshkung in Haliburton County and beyond. “We have only been around for nine years,” said Renda, “but breweries and restaurants are community hubs, and we wanted to really create that vibe so everyone knew who we were.”

Renda worked his way up the ladder at Boshkung, until one day, an opportunity came up for ownership. And not just ownership of Boshkung, but for the chance to formally join forces with Truss to create a uniform and aligned vision



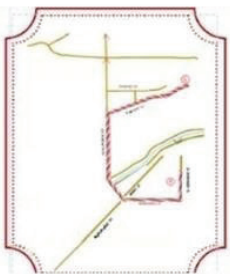
Mike Rae of Truss Foodworks Inc. and Mathew Renda of Boshkung Brewing Co. have officially taken over ownership of the businesses, and merged them together to provide new offerings in the Haliburton County hospitality industry. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

for the future of hospitality in the community. “It was a no brainer” said Rae, in reference to the decision to formally collaborate.

On Oct. 17, the partnership and new ownership was made official, with a new menu at what is now called “Boshkung Smokehouse,” new renovations, and a slightly new look. “The whole point of the merge is to have everything the same,” said Renda, “We want to really establish our brand not just in Haliburton County, but beyond that as well.”

The friends noted that while they aren’t the youngest in the brewery scene, they are amongst the youngest in the restaurant sector in the region; a responsibility they do not take lightly. “We want to draw people to our county with the brand,” said Rae, “and in order to do that, we need to have this vibe where everyone is welcome, and it’s just a fun place to be,” added Renda.

While the duo hail originally from the GTA region, they both note that Haliburton County is home to them now, “Life in Haliburton is really just closer to what life is really supposed to be all about,” said Rae. “I love the beauty of it,” said Renda, “and even when it’s busy, it’s hard to feel stressed out here.”



## Santa Claus

PARADE

## Christmas

IN THE VILLAGE

# November 18, 2023

**The Santa Claus Parade begins at 11 AM**

The parade will start at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, continue along Parkside Street, head south on Bobcaygeon Road, and finish at the township municipal parking lot off St. Germaine Street.



**Christmas in the Village is at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. 176 Bobcaygeon Road. 11 AM to 4 PM**

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- Agnes Jamieson Gallery is open featuring the current exhibit, “Shifting Lens”

- Live show by local singer and guitarist, Eric Swanson, 1 PM to 4 PM
- Santa letter writing station
- Christmas ornament crafts

For more information, contact us: (705) 286-3763, or visit our website: <https://www.mindenhills.ca/events>





# MH council needs more communication on fire plan

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Minden Hills will not be taking part in a county-wide Fire Master Plan just yet.

Shain Duda, the township's fire chief, asked that council give the contract for a Fire Master Plan to Lomax Group. He said during council's regular meeting Nov. 9 that the local plan is part of a county-wide initiative.

Council agreed to accept Duda's report as information and asked that the township's finance director return to a future meeting with more details.

The County of Haliburton commissioned a Service Delivery Review in February to evaluate municipal services. The four lower tier fire chiefs and CAOs determined that a county-wide Fire Master Plan would be part of the review's goals.

All four municipalities participated in a September request for proposals for the Fire Master Plan project.

The master plan is a document that will give a municipality an idea of its future firefighting needs by considering the past and present level of the service, along with assessing the success of the delivery of those services to the community.

"Once this baseline review has been completed, the next step is to look at anticipated future growth of the community and how this might affect service demands and expectations," Duda said.

The final step is the gap analysis, which is accomplished by comparing the initial baseline review with the anticipated future expectations.

Duda said there was little idea during this year's municipal budget process how much such a master plan would cost. But it was decided that \$40,000 would be earmarked by each of the county's townships for the endeavour and that it would be funded in the 2024 budget.

Duda said it was agreed that the prices quoted in 2023 would be static for payment in 2024.

"The project that came in with our submissions are well

below the \$40,000 budget," he said.

Mayor Bob Carter said he has no problems with the RFP and how it was awarded.

"My problem sort of was back to the beginning here," he said. "I think that when all of these service reviews were set up ... not enough thought was put into each of the different areas that were going to be researched and the process by which recommendations would come out of those groups."

He said the county's fire chiefs and CAOs decided what they wanted to see in a fire service to increase efficiency service levels.

"And that really wasn't being communicated to council and wasn't approved by council as we went along," Carter said.

Councillor Ivan Ingram said there's a strategic plan and an asset management plan on the horizon. He feels the details that would constitute a Fire Master Plan would be covered in both those documents.

"Again, there was no communication with council on this at all," Ingram said.

Coun. Tammy McKelvey said the manner in which the joint-RFPs are being done at the county level has become a problem for the municipality.

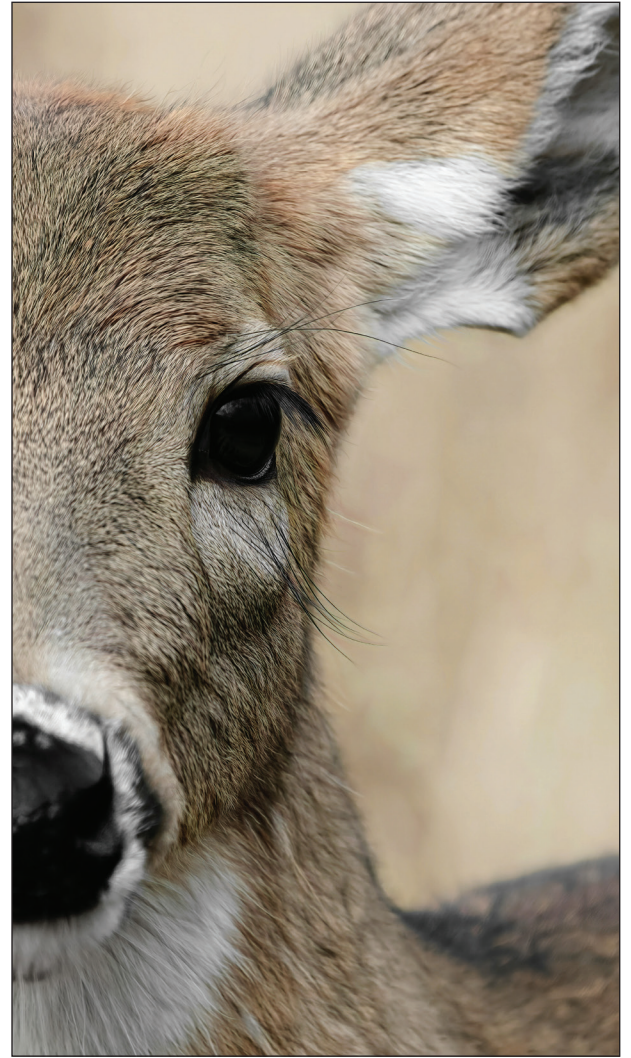
"I know there's limited rationale for just deciding you're not going to accept a tender or an RFP and because it's not in our budget, that would give us justification to deny this," she said.

"It's the way that the service delivery reviews have been set up," said Coun. Pam Sayne. "So it's not unique to this particular proposal. It's with other proposals as well where council has not been involved."

"I don't know where we go from this," Carter said.

"I would think we'd accept it as information," Ingram said. "And, with the strategic and asset management plans on the go, I don't see proceeding any farther with this."

"For whatever reason we don't proceed, I think we have to find out what our options are and our obligations," Carter said.



## Darling deer

Tammy Nash captured this photo of a young doe in Algonquin Highlands. A reminder that deer are very active this time of year, so be sure to be mindful when driving. /submitted

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**InOtherWords**

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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## No news is bad news

**“H**OW COME YOU don't have any posts on your Facebook page? Shouldn't you be updating this regularly?”

That was a message I received this past week to our *Minden Times* messenger. This isn't the first time I've received a message like this recently. I also get emails from folks who are wondering why they can't share our news articles to their own pages. Why their content keeps getting blocked.

I've written about this topic as an editorial before, but based on the feedback we are getting from our readers, I wanted to clarify again.

Bill C-18 was introduced in June of this year. It is known as “An Act respecting online communications platforms that make news content available to persons in Canada (Online News Act).”

The idea is to properly compensate news sources and providers for sharing their work online.

This was a concept not met with warmth by Google and Meta, the parent company behind Facebook and Instagram. In the wake of the government adopting the bill, Google released a formal statement: “The Government of Canada has enacted a new law called Bill C-18, requiring two companies to pay for simply showing links to news, something that everyone else does for free. The unprecedented decision to put a price on links creates uncertainty for our products and exposes us to uncapped financial liability simply for facilitating Canadians' access to news from Canadian publishers.”

So we're at a standstill. The Canadian government and the online platforms have not reached a settlement point, nor is there any indication that this is a work in progress at this time.

Whenever we try to post, we get a message saying “People in Canada can't see your content.” For followers, they just see a blank page, saying there

are no posts available.

And the irony of the whole matter, is that for those who may not completely understand, we cannot share the reality of the matter, because it is of course, news, and of course, news is blocked. A cyclical snake where no one wins, and education and understanding take the biggest beating.

Now that Bill-C18 has been in effect for months, I can say with confidence that I miss the way things used to be. I miss seeing a sunset in Minden and posting it on Facebook; sharing a moment with all those who call our community home in some capacity. I miss adding reminders about upcoming Lions Club spaghetti dinners, or Legion craft sales. I miss posting a story about someone in our community who has

passed, but who led a life worth celebrating, and connecting all those who miss them.

News stories in Canada weren't always political and propagandistic. They could be personal. They could be pensive. They could be poetry.

The stories of our town are the ones I miss sharing. The ones that put our community on the map for what it really is; a tiny town with the heart and soul of a lion.

Of course, we still have our print papers and select articles available online, but we are in a time in human history where many have pushed beyond the boundaries of our communities, and utilized the resources available to share news around the globe. By suddenly taking that option away, we regress back to our little bubble.

If you have concerns about the lack of Canadian news gracing your screen, I highly recommend reaching out to your member of parliament. Even if this issue has been in the works for a few months, the impacts of the decision are just starting to resonate with people, and the reality of the situation grows dimmer.

Because we shouldn't live in a world where news is a thing of the past.

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**  
Editor

## Kwarky



“No, I moved in years ago. Why do you ask?”

## Sitting still

**O**NE OF THE primary, but often overlooked, hunting skills is the ability to keep very still for a very long time. And not just at hunt camp when they are looking for volunteers to clean the outhouse either.

No, this ability proves useful in the field too.

To the uninitiated, this might seem like a very simple task that takes no skill at all. But that's only because the uninitiated have never gone out into the field and tried to keep very still for a very long time. It's not as easy as it sounds.

Essentially, there are two ways of keeping very still. In the first, you remain wide awake, alert, and practicing various levels of fidgetiness – anything from checking your social media up to, and including, trying to mime your way out of an invisible box.

Few people ever see deer when utilizing this technique.

In the second way, you simply nod off, which is the pinnacle of keeping very still.

Yet, as you might have guessed, this is also a siren call for every deer in the vicinity. I'm not sure why, but I suspect it is because snoring often sounds like the grunt calls deer make.

All I know for certain is that there isn't a hunter in my acquaintance who hasn't, at one time or another, woke from a sound nap to see new deer tracks or other sign just feet from where he or she was “keeping very still.”

I am no different.

I once was laying down very still in a ground blind when a huge doe ran right

beside the structure and the vibrations of her hooves hitting the ground woke me up. Minutes later, I was field dressing the animal – partly because I had an antlerless tag and wanted to fill the freezer, but mostly because I was upset that she interrupted a perfectly good nap.

(Pro tip: repeat a story like that to the people you live with, and you will significantly improve the quality of your naps.)

The point is keeping still, one way or another, will affect your success in the deer woods. And so it behooves every deer hunter to learn how to do it properly.

I find the best way to practice is to sit in a big armchair and start reading a book, thinking about life, or, even better, watch a TV show or a movie that my partner chose. (Documentaries or educational shows work best.)

Since the entertainment chosen will invariably be devoid of gun fights, martial arts, explosions, or car chases, I will almost immediately dose off – and if you are as good at it as

I am, once you wake up, you should be able to look out the window and see deer signs nearby. Or maybe even a deer running off.

There is only one downside to this. Your significant other will then quiz you on the movie or show they chose. And, after you can only describe the first minute, they will ask why you even bother watching something together if all you are going to do is practice an important deer hunting technique.

There is also an upside though. If you told a similar story to the one I mentioned earlier, you'll at least have had a quality nap.

**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35



# IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

## Those beautiful burgers

**T**RY AS YOU MIGHT, it's hard to ignore television commercials. Especially when you are watching a lot of sports, as many of us were during the World Series and now the NHL hockey season.

Between all the exciting plays, the ads keep coming at you. You finally start to pay attention to them.

I started paying attention to the ubiquitous burger ads. You know the ones where some guy stretches his mouth open impossibly wide to bite into a large and luscious looking hamburger offered by one of the many burger joint chains like Burger King, MacDonald's and Wendy's.

Those TV burgers must be four to six inches thick when stacked with beef patty, onions, tomato, lettuce, bacon, onion rings and whatever other

condiments the makers throw in. The only mouth big enough to handle that kind of a load belongs to Donald Trump.

Those burgers are not what you get served at your favourite fast-food joint. They are highly juiced up in elaborate ways to make your mouth water and send you out the door to buy one.

The juicing up is done by "food stylists" employed to make burgers look drool-worthy in advertisements. They use a variety of clever techniques, and some inedible products, to make a burger look perfect for the camera.



**JIM POLING SR.**

*From Shaman's Rock*

When a burger is just lightly roasted it stays raw and without the 25-per-cent shrinkage that comes with full cooking. It is big and juicy, but red. So a food stylist brushes it with brown shoe polish to give it the fully cooked look without the shrinkage.

The fully cooked burger you get at the fast-food place is much smaller and less appetizing looking. Most are just under 115 grams (four ounces) with less than half of that being the actual meat patty.

That doesn't mean the fast-food burger you get is not good. It's just not as big, fresh and appetizing as food stylists make them look for advertisements. And, that has created some controversy.

A 2018 study by Cancer Research United Kingdom reported that teenagers exposed to TV fast-food advertising eat up to an additional 350 calories a week in food high in salt, sugar and fat. That's 18,200 extra calories a year.

Also, dissatisfied customers have filed lawsuits against some major fast-food outlets, claiming the companies make their menu items look bigger and better in advertising than they really are.

A judge in the U.S. recently ruled in one case that there is no proof that McDonald's and Wendy's sold burgers that were smaller than advertised. The judge ruled that the fast-food companies' efforts to make their burgers look appetizing are no different from other companies who use "visually appealing images to foster positive associations with their products."

There are other cases still before the courts, including one against Burger King.

Burgers are not the only food that gets juiced for advertising. Glycerin is sprayed on fruit and salads to make them glisten and look appetizing.

And, how tempting is an advertising photo of a plate of fluffy pancakes smothered with warm maple syrup?

Looks delicious, but maple syrup is not used in photographing pancakes for advertising. Maple syrup can heat up and become runny under photo lights and gets quickly absorbed into the pancakes. So motor oil is used instead because it is thicker, glistens nicely and does not get absorbed by the pancakes.

Those ads featuring a milkshake parfait or slice of pie with dollops of whipped cream don't use real whipped cream, which melts and gets runny under hot lights. So photographers use shaving cream, which doesn't melt and is easily shaped to give the desired look.

Ads can be deceptive and manipulative but fortunately we don't have to eat what the photographers are serving up.

The ads do encourage people, notably children, to eat the wrong things and various jurisdictions around the world have discussed ways of restricting TV and online food ads.

Sweden and Norway banned all ads to children in the early 1990s. Quebec also has banned advertising to children during programs geared to kids.

Canada's federal government has updated its code for food and drink ads that reach children under 13 but little else.

## Why are fewer Canadians starting their own business?

**T**HERE ARE MORE small businesses in Canada closing up shop than there are people starting a new business.

That's the disturbing finding from a new study carried out by the Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) and the University of Montreal.

According to the study, Canada has 100,000 fewer entrepreneurs today than 20 years ago, despite the fact that our population has grown by more than 10 million people. In other words, only half as many people are starting their own businesses compared to two decades years ago.

And of that group, approximately one-third will close their doors within the first five years.

BDC, which is a federal crown corporation specifically created to help Canadian entrepreneurs, said the study was "worrying because entrepreneurship is crucial to the economy, fueling innovation and economic growth."

The small business bank also called the decline in Canadian entrepreneurship "alarming" because of the enormous role small business plays in creating new jobs – or as BDC put it: "Entrepreneurs are the backbone of Canada's economy: They spearhead innovations. They're responsible for virtually all net new job creation. They drive growth and transformation."

In searching for reasons why entrepreneurship is no longer an attractive career option for many Canadians, BDC cited the "more complex business environment" that entrepreneurs and small business owners face.

But the real question is: Why is the business environment more complex today than it was 20 or even 50 years ago?

I believe the main reason is that government is suffocating small business to death. Canada's small business owners and entrepreneurs are struggling to cope with a mind-boggling amount of red tape, regulations, rules, forms and never-ending government compliance requests.

All of this added regulatory burden has sapped productivity and crippled the competitiveness of small businesses in Canada.

Last year, the Chartered Professional Accounts of Canada urged the government to act on a task force report from over ten years ago that identified over 60 areas where government could reduce red tape and regulations.

But nothing was done – and in the ten years since the report was published, the paperwork and regulatory compliance that small business gets saddled with each year has continued to get worse.

The other key factor hampering small businesses is the tax that's levied on them in their early stages of incubation and growth – a crucial period when cashflow is king and profits are typically re-invested in product development and hiring new employees to fuel future expansion.

So how do we get more Canadians starting their own small business? And how do we help the hundreds of thou-

sands of small businesses across Canada struggling to make a go of it?

I believe the best solution is the creation of an economic charter of rights – one that takes the chains off small business by reducing the regulatory burden we've imposed on them. By doing this, we'd give small businesses the conditions they need to thrive and flourish.

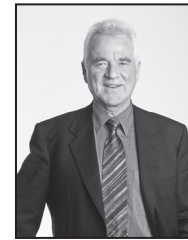
An economic charter with these key principles would trigger a wave of entrepreneurship and would give existing small business owners a fighting chance to keep their doors open and grow. It's also the reason why small business across Canada should rally together in support of an economic charter.

If any business association in Ontario wants to learn more about the proposed Economic Charter, I'd be happy to speak at your event and tell you more about how the charter can help small business. Email me at [info@economiccharter.ca](mailto:info@economiccharter.ca).

### Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.

[fstronachlpc@gmail.com](mailto:fstronachlpc@gmail.com)



**FRANK STRONACH**

*Principles*



## HCPL's Book of the Week

After saving the world multiple times, Percy Jackson is hoping to have a normal senior year. Unfortunately, the gods aren't quite done with him. Percy will have to fulfill three quests in order to get the necessary three letters of recommendation from Mount Olympus for college.

The first quest is to help Zeus's cup-bearer retrieve his goblet before it falls into the wrong hands. Can Percy, Grover, and Annabeth find it in time?

*The Chalice of the Gods* by Rick Riordan is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.



# 'Good, positive changes' in Minden; Pat Kennedy reflects on his time as CAO

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

It's no secret that the Township of Minden Hills struggles to keep staff in place. With a noticeably high turnover rate, and a slew of pressing projects falling through the cracks as a result, Pat Kennedy had his work cut out for him as an interim CAO. "It was pretty intimidating at first," said Kennedy, "I had never done anything like this before, but I am really grateful that council put their faith in me."

The former EMS director and county council representative was enjoying his retirement over the summer months when he was initially approached by members of the Minden council to see if he could step into the chief administrative officer role, even just for a short time. What started as a firm "no" gradually eased into a "yes" when Kennedy saw an opportunity to enact some positive change to the township.

"I figured, budgets had been set and programs were underway, they just needed someone to put out the fires. Hold it steady," he said.

He started the role the first week of August, and had his last day on Oct. 27. "The idea was to stay in the role until the new CAO started," he said, "but there is just too much stress."

Battling health concerns himself, Kennedy noted that he was strongly advised by his doctors to step away from the position. From that prognosis, Kennedy spoke with his family, and decided it was time to move on. Since resigning from the role, he shared that his blood pressure has returned to normal, and he is "back on track" in terms of healing.

"The new CAO is starting Nov. 23," he told the *Times*, "and I've still been working on little projects for the municipality until

she gets settled in."

One of the areas of interest that Kennedy dedicated his energy towards during his time as CAO was the staffing concerns of the township. "Municipal jobs used to be some of the best jobs in the county," he said, "but the private sector really stepped up in terms of wages and benefits, and now we're really just not getting a lot of applicants anymore."

Kennedy noted that he believes all municipalities need to take a good hard look at how they treat their staff, which includes increasing wages, expanding benefit packages, and offering the options to work from home or a four-day-work week.

"I know there are a lot of issues going on with municipal work" he said, "and they're hard jobs. Everyone is under public scrutiny all the time. You can't go to the grocery store without having someone recognize you."

But Kennedy hopes that he changed some of the narratives around municipal work during his time as CAO. "I always made a point of connecting with the staff," he said. "The staff was truly amazing, and I could see they were trying to do full time jobs without full time staff, but I always appreciated everything they did."

The planning department was just one department that had been trying to stay afloat over years of turnover. Kennedy noted that during his time there, the department increased from two staff, up to eight. "We're starting to see departments look down the road of what they can accomplish and work towards, instead of just constantly putting little fires out," he said, "there are some good, positive changes happening."

One mind shift that Kennedy experienced during his time as CAO for Minden, was a change of heart towards amalgamation. Currently, the region has four lower-



Pat Kennedy has wrapped up his chapter as CAO of Minden Hills, after dedicating months in the role to address some needs and concerns within the township. /file photo

tier municipalities, with representation from each sitting on county council. "I used to be completely against amalgamation," said Kennedy, "but more and more I am realizing that we need to take a hard look at how that could work."

Kennedy shared that he was noticing how many items "were sent up the hill [to county council], just to be sent right back down the hill [to the Minden municipality]."

He noted that challenges with funding and staffing across the board could be alle-

viated if there was a cohesive structure that benefited all levels of government.

With the new CAO not starting for a matter of weeks, Kennedy is still involved in decisions at the Township of Minden Hills, including hiring and interviews, but he is optimistic about the future of Minden, and grateful for the opportunity to contribute to its next steps. "I hope I made a positive difference in the county," he said, "and I think Minden is on the cusp of some great changes."



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The Kinmount Colour Party marches through the downtown core on Nov. 11, 2023. /DAVID ZILSTRA staff



## A time to remember

Left, Andrew Hodson, executive assistant to Jaime Schmale MP reading a Remembrance Day message from the Prime Minister during the Gelert Remembrance Day ceremony on Nov. 11. Jamie Schmale in the background looking on. /DAVID ZILSTRA staff  
Below, the Irondale Church set up images of all those lost in the wars to honour them over Remembrance Day. /TIM YANO special to the Times



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### The History of Curry Chevrolet

When: Nov. 16, 1:30 p.m.  
Where: Haliburton Museum, 66 Museum Road  
The Haliburton County Historical Society invites you to an afternoon with Bob Bullock. Learn about the last 100 years of Curry's in Haliburton. Light refreshments will be served.

### Canadian Blues: Live Music

When: Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Downstairs at the Haliburton Legion  
Highlands Buckside Blues Society and Canoe FM present local Canadian blues musicians Sean Cotton, Mike Phillips (The Mighty Lopez), and Rich Anton with a special guest appearance by Hugh Taylor. Tickets are \$25 (\$30 at the door), cash only, available at Canoe FM or the Haliburton Legion - special discount for Highlands Buckside Blues Society and Haliburton Legion members. Contact [louiseanneewing@gmail.com](mailto:louiseanneewing@gmail.com) or 705-457-5831.

### Poinsettia Luncheon

When: Nov. 17, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Where: St. Paul's Anglican Church, 19 Invergordon Ave, Minden  
Soup, sandwiches, dessert, tea and coffee, as well as a bake sale. Lunch is by donation.

### Craft and Bake Sale

When: Nov. 18, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Where: Kinmount Legion, 5074 County Road 503  
A wide variety of local vendors with a large variety of handcrafted items. Lunch is also available for purchase, prepared by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

### Friends of the HCPL Christmas Book Nook Sale

When: Sat., Nov. 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Where: Minden Hills Library Branch  
A variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Payment is by cash or cheque donation. All money raised by the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

### Christmas Craft Sale

When: November 18, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Where: Haliburton Legion, 719 Mountain St.  
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Haliburton Legion is holding a craft sale. An extensive variety of crafts created by 30 talented vendors will be available. This is a great day to start your Christmas shopping and enjoy lunch in the Scholfield Room.

### Minden Legion Branch 636

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**Tuesday:** Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.  
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.  
**Every other Friday:** Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.  
**Friday Fish & Chips & Wings.** Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.  
**Every other Friday Karaoke** 8 to 11 p.m.  
**Saturday All Day Breakfast** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.  
**Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541**

## Christmas Toy & Food Drive 2023

Join the Haliburton County Home Builders' Association and help us to make a difference!

As the Christmas season commences, The Haliburton County Home Builders Association would like to encourage you to include its Christmas Challenge in your plans. Large or small, each gift will help fill the Christmas hampers distributed by the Food Banks in Haliburton County. If you aren't sure what to collect simply gather local gift certificates.

**Option 1:** Call - text 705-457-6901, email [info@hchba.ca](mailto:info@hchba.ca) in advance to arrange a date to pick up your gifts. We will take them to the local distribution centers.

**Option 2:** Drop off your gifts at one of our partners. We will then pick up from there.



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**Drop off for the 4C's in Haliburton is Dec 8<sup>th</sup> and other location Dec 15<sup>th</sup>**

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# LEST WE FORGET

REMEMBRANCE DAY



War poem In Flanders Fields, written by John McCrae, is read during the Remembrance Day ceremony in Minden on Saturday. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times



Members of the Colour Party salute at the start of the Remembrance Day ceremony in Minden on Saturday. /ADAM FRISK special to the Times

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# The season of kindness is upon us

by **BRITNEY PAGLIUCA**  
Times Staff

The holiday season is fast approaching, and while many of spend this time with our friends or family and purchasing gifts to put under the tree, for others this is simply not an option. For those individuals, the holiday season can be especially challenging.

According to the HKPR District Health Unit's 2019 statistics, Haliburton County has a child poverty rate of 23 per cent and an overall poverty rate of 17 per cent. Many people in this community are forced to concentrate their wages on the cost of fuel and utilities, and struggle to afford food and other basic needs. For many, gifts and holiday feasts are simply out of the question.

People in our community - the friendly faces we see around town and the people we call our neighbours - are in need. Here are some small ways we can help.

## The Great South Lake Pyjama Project

A new charity drive is taking place in Haliburton County. Organized by three families from South Lake with the help of St. Paul's Anglican Church, its aim is to provide new pyjamas to all those in need. "Everyone deserves a good night's sleep," organizer Joy Webster said, "And a new pair of cozy, comfortable pyjamas can help."

Webster and other volunteers will be collecting donated pyjamas year-round and distributing them to families or individuals in need. "We will be working on this project 365 days of the year," Webster said. All items will be donated to members of the Haliburton community.

There is a drop off location at South Lake (specific location available upon request at 705-796-8265), as well as St. Paul's Anglican Church Thrift Store in Minden. Webster also stated that the non-profit group is in search of a space in Haliburton that can be used as a third drop-off location.

Organizers ask that donated pyjamas are new with tags. Webster also noted that it is important to consider the county's demographic when selecting items to be donated. She said, "While all sizes and age-appropriate pyjamas are appreciated, we should take into consideration the fact that majority of the county's population is over the age of 50."

## Haliburton County Food Banks

According to Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank & Lily Ann, donations to the county's food banks typically start to decline in the fall, despite a continued and critical need.

"Research shows that people who do not have enough food to eat get sick more often," Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank states, "To ensure that you are helping in the best possible way, please consider donating healthy food choices." Their website contains a comprehensive list of food items that are most appreciated. They also accept financial donations to use towards purchasing perishable foods like meat, dairy, eggs and fresh produce. Cardiff and Highlands East Food Banks accept perishable items.

Drop-off locations throughout the county include Minden



Gail Nicholson, Tom Nicholson, Reverend Martha Waind, Joy Webster and Reverend Canon Joan Cavanaugh-Clark kicking off The Great South Lake Pyjama Project, in downtown Minden. Over 25 pairs of New pj's, with tags, have been collected in one week. To donate a pair of New pj's, for all ages, please drop them off to St. Paul's Anglican Thrift Shop, in Minden. /photo submitted

Community Food Centre (24 Newcastle Street, Minden), Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank (26 York Street, Haliburton), Highlands East Food Hub (2249 Loop Road, Wilberforce), Cardiff Food Bank (2278 Monck Road, Cardiff) and Kinmount Food Bank (4937 Monck Road Baptist Church, Kinmount).

## More ways to help

The SIRCH Community Kitchen prepares and distributes free nutritious meals to those in need once a week. Financial donations can help them continue to do so.

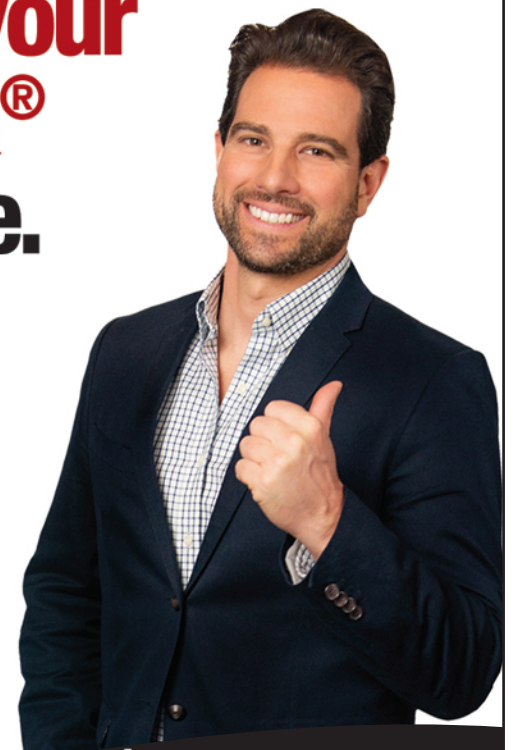
Clothing donations can be brought to thrift stores throughout the county, including SIRCH Thrift Warehouse and Haliburton 4Cs Lily Ann. Warm clothes like jackets, gloves, hats and scarves are especially appreciated.

Heat Bank Haliburton County offers small grants to help overcome home heating emergencies and can provide firewood to those in need. They also aid in the process of navigating government supports such as hydro credits for low-income homes. They accept financial and firewood donations.

Every bit of help matters.

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# Saini breaks franchise all time goal record, Huskies go 3 for 4

by ALEX GALLACHER  
Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies had a busy past two weeks with four separate games being played. With the team slumping to a below .500 record, the team needed a good stretch of games in order to pull the Huskies back into playoff contention.

Three players would be traded away from the Huskies during this time, Vlad Visan was sent down to the Hamilton Kilty B's Jr B squad, Josh Rumolo was sent to the North York Rangers, while John Mead has to been traded to a team that is TBA.

With three players returning from injury, the first match against the St Michael's Buzzers proved to be a good one.

## Buzzed out Buzzers

The Huskies found themselves down by two midway through the second, despite the slow start the team was ready for a charge. In less that five minutes, the Huskies found themselves with a three goal explosion courtesy of Patrick Saini, Nick Lamont and Charlie Fink.

A stunned Buzzers team tried to get back on the horse in the third period, but the Huskies proved to be a force to be reckoned with. In the third period, Lamont continued his pummeling of the Buzzers with his second of the game coming at 18:50. Ian Philips added an empty net to seal the deal, and send the Huskies home victorious.

With his goal, Saini tied the all-time Huskies franchise goal record at 65. He would have three more games to break the record. Brett Fullerton made 28 stops on 30 shots and was awarded second star for his efforts.

## Stouffville gets no Spirit

Three days later, the Stouffville Spirit were in town to play. Last time those two teams faced off, the Huskies dominated them in Stouffville. It was safe to say the Spirit wanted revenge, especially given that the loss came in their own rink.

The Huskies found themselves behind less than 10 minutes into this one, as due to a bad turn over, the Spirit were sent in on a 2-0 short handed breakaway. Odaro Ewere made no mistake and put the Spirit up by one at the intermission.

The Huskies however, were determined to not let this blunder get them down. At the 2:53 mark, Huskies forward Aiden Yarde came streaking down the wing. Snapping home a bullet past Kyle Downey, Yarde picked up his very first career OJHL goal.

Three minutes later and Huskies doubled their advantage, when a scramble in front of the net lead to Ty Petrou getting a clear shot to give his team the lead. With no scoring in the third, Fullerton fended off a 35 shot armada to hold on and give the Huskies the win.



Huskies forward #75 Patrick Saini goes for the puck during the team's home game against the Markham Royals on Saturday, Nov. 11. The Huskies won 6-3. /TIM YANO Special to the Times

Huskies forward Lucas Stevenson left the game with injury after being slew footed by Spirit forward Cameron Kosurko. Stevenson is out until further notice.

## Wrecking the Royals

The next victim for the Huskies was the final game of their three game home stand, however, the opponent was the second place Markham Royals. With 15 wins and single digit losses, the Royals had a bolstered team that included three former Toronto Patriots, goalie Chris Quizi, defenseman Ray Hou and forward Ashton Miwa.

This game was a tough one on paper, but in reality the Huskies sent out a statement.

Lucas Marshall kicked off the party with his third of the season, but the Royals answered back with two of their own coming at the hands of Ben-Chaim, Lalkin and Jacob Barkley. Royals goalie Quizi, received a rare delay of game penalty during the first due to his penchant for kicking the net off during Huskies goal chances.

The second period saw Quizi and Royals pay for their tomfoolery, as the Huskies scored like it was going out of style. The first goal of the second was arguably the most im-

portant goal in Huskies history. Coming in on a two on one, Petrou made a beautiful no look pass to Saini. The captain made no mistake, burying a one knee one-timer for his 66th and franchise leading goal.

Barkley added his second of the game on a sketch play in front of the net, before Nick Lamont tied up this one on the powerplay. That was the end of Quizi's night and the Royals subbed in Sebastian Monaco.

Saini added his second of the game, with Phillips adding one of his own. By the end of the second it was now 5-3 Huskies. Philips added his second of the night into the empty net to seal a third straight win for Huskies.

## On the Road

The Huskies sadly dropped their last game of the weekend 4-2 to a Buzzers at the St. Mike's college arena. Petrou and Fink has the goals, but a four goal third period saw the Huskies fall to the Buzzers in the end.

Two games are on the docket this week, game one sees the Huskies head out to Collingwood to face the league leading Blues, before finishing things off back at home against the North York Rangers.

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1					6	8		
		3						
			6		2		4	
4	8		3					
		6	4	5		9	7	
		1		2				
	9					2		

Level: Advanced

### Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

### Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 14

# Secret ingredient to butter tarts revealed

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

If you've spent any time in Minden, there's a good chance that you've tried a butter tart by Jeanne Anthon. "They're kind of my go-to treat for a party," she said.

Anthon is a long-standing member of Minden Rotary, and one of the first ever female members of the club. She is involved in an array of volunteer organizations and committees in the community, and is retired from her decades in Minden politics.

But this just gives her some more time to find ways of focusing on the good things, and right now, one of those good things is her butter tarts for the annual Minden Rotary Holiday Auction.

The auction boasts hundreds of donated items from partners around the community, including local wines, handmade art, gift certificates to local restaurants, and more. But the item that really seemed to take off, were Anthon's butter tarts.

"Within an hour, they were going 'over value'," said Rotarian Sharon Foster, "and I

know that not only are they the best butter tarts on the planet, but there is a lot of love for Jeanne Anthon."

Anthon shared that she was surprised at the interest in the tarts. "They're pretty simple butter tarts, I use the same recipe my mother used to make them," she said.

But Anthon noted one new ingredient that she has been incorporating into the pastry for years: vodka.

"I saw on a cooking show a few years ago that they recommended vodka for the pastry, and I thought that made sense," she said, noting that the alcohol will evaporate when cooked, leaving the pastry tender and flaky. "I always believe the pastry is the best part," she said.

All of the proceeds from the two dozen butter tarts will be going directly to the Minden Community Food Centre.

Anthon's butter tarts, as well as a variety of other items, are available through the Minden Rotary auction site, at [www.mindenrotary.ca/Stories/holiday-auction-2023](http://www.mindenrotary.ca/Stories/holiday-auction-2023). Bidding is open until Nov. 19 at 4 p.m.





## HHSS Sports Highlights



The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School girls field hockey team competed at the OFSAA championships in Milton this year. / Submitted

# HHSS field hockey team's dreams come true

by VIVIAN COLLINGS  
Times Staff

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School girls field hockey team shot for the stars, and they made it.

The team won the COSSA field hockey championship against Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School in Peterborough, which earned themselves a place to play against the province's best teams at OFSAA in Milton from Thursday, Nov. 2 to Saturday, Nov. 4.

For many of the players, this was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

"The idea was to really enjoy the experience. It's not very often that a team gets to go to OFSAA, so we really just wanted them to enjoy it and take it all in," said team manager Jason Morissette. "Winning for us was just earning a spot to go in the first place."

Team captains and HHSS seniors Abi Lewis, Lily Manning, and Baylie Stover shared what it was like to experience OFSAA for the first time.

"For this being our last year, we had a great time, and it was amazing for the six seniors to end our time on the team like this," Baylie said.

The three captains have been playing on the team for the past three years since sports were brought back after the pandemic, but have been learning and practicing at the summer program for twice as long.

"There were lots of tears at the end," Abi added.

The team had played the Holy Cross CSS Hurricanes for the entire season, and faced their season rivals during COSSA at the end of October.

"When it came down to playoffs against them, we beat them in both games 6-0 and 7-0," said Abi. "We had been stronger than them for the season, but they kept growing as a team, and they definitely put up a good fight by the end."

The OFSAA championships were held in Milton at Craig Kielburger Secondary School from Thursday, Nov. 2 to Saturday, Nov. 4 with a banquet in between game days.

"The banquet was so fun, and the facility was incredible too. They had a big dome over

their turf field that we got to play in, and we were used to a grass field, so it was so nice to play there," Lily said.

The team was ranked 14th out of 16, and the lowest-ranking team they played was 7th out of 16.

"Our first game was phenomenal. We kept it tied most of the game, and we started to adapt to this other team that definitely had the upper hand," Abi said. "It was great to be challenged in that way."

They lost this game against Merivale High School only 1-0.

Their second game was against Bluevale Collegiate Institute, which the team lost 6-0 to but put up a strong fight in the second half.

The final game was against the home team, Craig Kielburger SS.

"They were pretty aggressive and definitely had a home field advantage, but overall we had such an amazing experience," Lily said.

The last time the HHSS field hockey team made it to OFSAA was six years ago.

"For us coming from the small town into the big city, at a school with 400 kids to schools with thousands, we definitely held our own," Baylie said.

The team captains explained their mindset going into OFSAA.

"We had our heads up high. We knew we weren't going to blow everybody out of the park when the other schools had beat out so many others to get there, but we put our everything into those three games," Baylie said. "Obviously we wanted to win, but we weren't going to win. Winning was just getting there for us."

The team was coached by Steve Smith, Stacey Parish, and Amber-Lee Johnston.

"Stacey and Amber helped us so much this year. They both won athlete of the year and played field hockey when they went to school here, so their perspectives were so great to have," Abi said.

The summer field hockey program held on the school's field helped the team make it to where they are now.

"In middle school, you don't have field hockey at all, so it's all new. Summer practices helped a lot, and we really focused on technique and strategy," Lily said.

Although they didn't bring home any medals, they did bring home the Pride of the Red and experiences they will never forget.

"These girls played the best in all of Ontario. For playing teams and players that

practice all the time, all year in domes on turf and will likely go on to play NCAA, NCIS, and for team Canada, we did so well," Morissette said. "We're so proud of them."



### Play ball!

The Haliburton Highlands junior girls basketball team hold up a win sign after becoming Kawartha champions. /Photo submitted



### We are the champs

HHSS played Kenner in the boys volleyball finals, and won, making their season complete with 11 wins, zero losses, and one tie overall. The team will be hosting the COSSA Championships on Nov. 16. /TIM YANO special to the Times



Getting crafty

The Christmas Craft Sale at the Minden Community Centre was festive and full of cheer with participating local vendors selling handmade goodies on Sunday, Nov. 12. Ornaments made out of wood by Latourbinette Woodturning Objects were on display at their booth. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Above, Kenzie Merritt stands with her wood ornaments during the Christmas Craft Sale at the Minden Community Centre on Sunday, Nov. 12. Left, Lyn Stevens creates mittens from recycled knit sweaters and had them for sale at the Christmas Craft Sale.



Ready to dance?

Interested in dance but not sure where to start? From Monday, November 20th to Thursday, November 23rd, all of Skyline Dance Studio's recreation classes are open & free to the community for new dancers to try, or current dancers to try something different. Current dancers can bring a friend! For more info, see [www.skylinedancestudio.ca](http://www.skylinedancestudio.ca).

Submitted

Bus stops for a good cause

Haliburton Bus Lines will be accepting food donations and toy donations which will go to the local food banks.

- Events:
- Stuff the Bus Food/Toy Drive  
Canadian Tire  
92 Water St, Minden, ON K0M 2K0  
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3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
  - Stuff the Bus Food/Toy Drive  
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5121 Haliburton County Rd 21, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0  
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11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submitted

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6	2	8	1	7	5	4	9	3
1	4	7	9	3	6	8	2	5
7	6	3	5	9	4	1	8	2
9	1	5	6	8	2	3	4	7
4	8	2	3	1	7	5	6	9
2	3	6	4	5	1	9	7	8
5	7	1	8	2	9	6	3	4
8	9	4	7	6	3	2	5	1

Submitted

Aging Together as Community, holiday social and lunch

Saturday Dec. 2, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Haliburton United Church. 'Stay Upright and Be Active.'

Presenters: Taoist Tai Chi and its benefits; Sit to Fit Bodies, Georgia Shank, Activity: A Part of You; BEHealth, Emily Clarke, Reg. Kinesiologist- Neuroplasticity/Movement as Medicine and Minds in Motion, Alzheimer's Society, Jennifer Stubbart and Melissa Foster, a social, recreation program that incorporates physical and mental stimulation, for those with memory loss and their care partners.

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This role is covering a maternity leave that begins in February 2024, with the opportunity to extend the contract based on interest and initiative.

Please forward your resume and samples of your published works including photos for consideration to Jennifer McEathron at [jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com) by Friday, December 7.

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**Lynda Frances Pawluch**

*Passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family at the St. Joseph's Hospice of London on Sunday, November 12, 2023, in her 76th year.*

Beloved wife of Nick. Dear mother of Andrea and her spouse Kevin, Tristan and his spouse Jeni. Loving grandma to Lacey, Jessica and Serena. Dear sister of John David Rapson (Anne), Robert Malcolm

Rapson (Shirlene), Brian Rapson, Peter Rapson (Isme) and Frederick Rapson (Yvonne). Fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews.

Lynda was proud to be one of the longest serving Secretaries at the Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, she was involved in the figure skating community, she loved music and played the French Horn for many years, a member of the Eastern Star, has won many prizes for her cross stitching and will be remembered most as being a doting grandmother.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Thursday, November 16, 2023 from 2:00pm until 5:00pm. Then to Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St, Minden, ON K0M 2K0 for visitation on Friday, November 17, 2023 at 12:00 pm until the time of the Funeral Service to Celebrate Lynda's Life at 1:00pm. Following the service the Interment will be held at the Minden Cemetery. Reception to follow back at the Highland Hills United Church (downstairs).

Memorial Donations to the St. Joseph's Hospice of London would be appreciated by the family.



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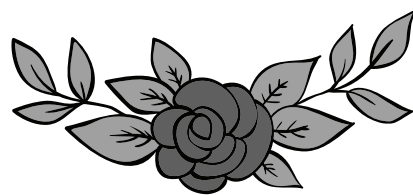


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**The Times**

Monday, November 8, 1999 Number 1913

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## Elementary teachers, school board reach tentative agreement

Elementary school teachers in the Trillium Lakelands District have reached a tentative agreement with the school board, after months of negotiations between the two sides.

"We're really pleased," said Cheryl Murdoch, chair of the Trillium Lakelands District School Board. "I think both sides are pleased that we have reached an agreement."

After two and a half days of concentrated and intensive negotiations, a tentative agreement was reached on October 30.

This is the last elementary agreement to be sought, and according to Murdoch, the school board is hoping the Trillium Lakelands Teachers can ratify the agreement prior to the school board meeting in Bracebridge on November 9.

The Trillium Lakelands members number some 740 full and part time teachers in Victoria, Haliburton and Muskoka. The group has been without a contract since 1998, and had voted in October to support a strike mandate if these negotiations failed.

No details of the agreement will be available until after the ratification vote, which is scheduled for some time this week.



**'TIS THE SEASON, ALREADY?:** These ladies started their Christmas shopping early at the Ingoldsby United Church annual Christmas Bazaar and Tea. This is one of the first of many area sales and luncheons, to celebrate the Christmas season.

## HHHS prepared for Y2K problems

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has a draft contingency plan for Y2K (Year 2000). The Board is in the process of fine tuning the plan, which will be submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Board chair Dave Coulson pointed out that there could be some liability to the Board, as well as its members, if it did not prepare a contingency plan.

"There is the potential for some real problems," he said.

The draft was prepared using the OHA (Ontario Hospitals Association) plan as a guide, so it has to be pared down to suit the local situation.

Preparations for Y2K will begin in earnest 72 hours before the Year 2000 changeover. Precautions will be taken at specific intervals leading up to midnight on December 31, 1999.

Both local hospitals will stock up with fuel, food and medical supplies.

Team leaders have been appointed to solve problems if they arise. As the countdown progresses, people will be ready for assignment as necessary.

Emergency generators are in place and tested.

All medical devices have been tested and have been certified as Y2K compliant.

All but the newest of computers are being replaced to assure there will be no problems.

"We have to be prepared for the worst case scenario," said Foster Loucks, executive director of HHHS.

Coulson noted that it must be made clear to the public that the hospitals are there to assist people who are sick or injured and not drop-in centres for the general public.

"We're making the point to municipalities and everyone else that the hospitals won't be everything to everybody," Loucks noted. "We're communicating with municipalities to clear up the areas of respon-

sibility and preparedness on both counts.

Board member Ted Wilkes suggested that the contractor should be advised to be prepared and have the construction at a level that can easily be interrupted without causing any hardships, should there be a Y2K related problem.

The general consensus among board members was that the hospitals are ready for any problems which may arise.

Board member Ross Davies summed it up when he said, "A great deal of work has been done. I think we are well prepared."

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